

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct a clerical error.

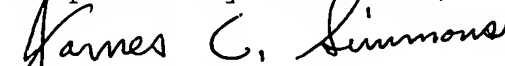
Support for newly submitted claims 21, 22, and 23 may be found in claims 16, 16, and 12 respectively as filed. Independent claims 18, 19, and 20 have been canceled, and independent claims 12 and 16 have been converted to dependent claims. The result is that there are, after such amendment of the claims, a total of 4 independent claims (and 20 total claims) and thus 1 excess independent claim for which the filing fees submitted includes the fee of \$100 at the small entity rate (Applicant claims small entity status) for this excess independent claim.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT:

Enclosed is form PTO/SB/08a. The U.S. patents listed thereon are discussed on pages 1 and 2 of the specification. The Applicant is unaware of any PCT search.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentably distinguishable over the disclosed art. It is accordingly submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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